

WACO CITY LIMITS NEWSLETTER

New City Academy Begins March 16th!

Applications are open for the 2023 Waco City Academy on January 13! 2022 graduates had tons of positive feedback on how much they learned about city government. It may be your turn to apply.

The ten-week class offers an interactive behind-the-scenes look into city government with presentations and hands-on activities from each department.

- Seats are limited to 20 participants and will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority to at least three representatives.
- Deadline to apply, 5 p.m., Friday, February 13
- Applications are available at City Hall, 300 Austin Avenue, or waco-texas.com/cityacademy.
- For more information, contact us at neighborhoods@waco-texas.com or 254.750.5774.

Winter Water Watch

Even though temperatures have dropped, we're still experiencing regional drought conditions, Waco! The good news is your lawn and plants need much less water in the winter, so conserving our precious water is more manageable. Be sure to visit wacowater.com and follow the City on social media for conservation tips, drought updates, and winter weather alerts.

Sign
up for
eNews!



Contact

Phone :
254.299.CITY (2489)

Address :
P. O. Box 2570
Waco, Texas 76702

waco-texas.com

Find us and follow us on:



introducing the
WACO CITY ACADEMY
2022 Graduates



*Congratulations
graduates!*



UPDATE

Elm Avenue
Improvements
Project

The next construction phase of the Elm Avenue Improvements Project has begun and is scheduled to continue through March 2023. Your patience is appreciated as this phase includes closures of Elm Avenue from Mann Street to Peach Street and Turner Street to Hood Street. All businesses can be accessed using detours on Taylor Street.

All closures in and around downtown can be found on our map at waco-texas.com/improvedowntown.

#WeAreWaco

We hope you're watching our series, We Are Waco! Segments showcase Wacoans with local businesses, organizations, and talent; this series represents what we do, how we live & who we are... **#WeAreWaco.**

Keep watching! We have so many more great stories to share. You can find them on our official social media accounts, our YouTube channel (youtube.com/mywacotv), or at mywacotv.com!

Have ideas for whom we can feature or a local business or nonprofit you love? Contact us on social media! Or through the MyWaco app!



MONTHLY
NEWS

City of **Waco**

waco-texas.com

CITY LIMITS

FEBRUARY 2023



Be a part of your city government

GENERAL ELECTION FILING

Get involved in your city government! Waco's General Election for Districts Two, Four, and Five of Waco City Council will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Remember, applicants must live in those council districts for six months to run for those seats.

The first day to file for a place on the ballot is Wednesday, January 18, 2023, through Friday, February 17, 2023, by 5 p.m.

Visit the City Secretary's Office at City Hall (300 Austin Avenue) to fill out a ballot application, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For questions or to schedule an appointment, you can call 254.750.5750.

Applications may also be mailed to the City Secretary's Office, City Hall, 300 Austin Avenue, Waco, Texas 76701, attention: Michelle Hicks, or emailed to citysecretary@wacotx.gov. Please note that applications must be notarized before filing.

Applications and candidate packets are also available online at waco-texas.com.

For more information on the process, please get in touch with the City Secretary's Office at 254.750.5750.

To find your council district, visit waco-texas.com/neighborhoods. Para obtener información en español, visite el sitio web en waco-texas.com.

To be filled:
Council Districts
II, IV & V
Get involved!



Did You Visit Waco Wonderland?

Waco Wonderland was a big hit this year! The first weekend of December every year is always exciting as our Parks and Recreation team transforms Heritage Square in Downtown Waco into a holiday festival. We heard from many of you how much you enjoyed it. More than 20,000 people enjoyed food, family activities, fireworks, and more. We'll see you next year!

Shop Waco Merch!



Did you know there's a cool new place to buy Waco wear, gifts and souvenirs?

The Waco Convention & Visitors Bureau has a website dedicated to the coolest Waco merchandise!

From zip-up hoodies and shirts to teddy bears and tote bags, they have everything you need to show your Waco pride!

Visit: mywacoshop.com to find the perfect gift!



Find Your Neighborhood
waco-texas.com/neighborhoods

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (OEM)

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) for the City of Waco and McLennan County is a division of the Waco Fire Department.

Emergency Management protects lives, property, and the environment from disasters and other emergencies through the proactive all-hazards approach of emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation efforts, public education, and emergency incident response.

This vital department responds to emergencies with a team effort, along with all area police departments, paid and volunteer fire departments, ambulance services, transit systems, and area hospitals. OEM also conducts disaster drills to test response times and efficiency in a major disaster such as a tornado, plane crash, and other circumstances that may involve many injuries or deaths.

The office also oversees the Radio Shop utilized by several departments and local public safety agencies. They operate and maintain the City of Waco's 800 MHz trunked radio communications system.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT



Mondays: STEAM Storytime at East Waco Library, 10:30 a.m.
Tuesdays: Baby Time at West Waco Library, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays: Preschool Storytime at West Waco Library, 10:30 a.m.
Thursdays: Toddler Time at Central Library, 10:30 a.m.
Thursdays: Family Storytime at West Waco Library, 6:30 p.m.
Fridays: Dad's Day at Central Library, 10:30 a.m.
The library event calendar is subject to change.

Scan the QR Code for a calendar of all things library!



Waco Library Storytimes



Lost or found a pet?

Have you lost a pet? Use LostPetsWaco.com, an online tool that helps reunite missing pets with their owners. A map and photo of pets picked up by animal care officers help owners find their pets fast and in real time so the officers can deliver them home without a stop at the shelter. Microchipped pets always get a free ride home. Find the map at lostpetswaco.com.

Did you find a lost pet? Help us keep animals out of the animal shelter and see if the dog or cat has a microchip at any Waco Fire Station. Firefighters can scan the animal to see if an owner's location can be found and give you the next steps. Find a list of stations at waco-texas.com/fire.



It's Underway at the Zoo!



Rendering: Education Center & Veterinary Hospital



Rendering: Penguin Shores Exhibit Interior

PENGUIN SHORES, EDUCATION CENTER & VETERINARY HOSPITAL

City of Waco, McLennan County officials, and the Cameron Park Zoological Society were excited to break ground on an exciting new addition to the Cameron Park Zoo!

This project brings a program for the South African black-footed penguin, an endangered species, and plans to be a breeding facility for them.

South African black-footed penguins are found in warm climates. They have been listed as an endangered species since 2010.

The Cameron Park Zoo is the second most-visited attraction in Waco, bringing an estimated \$10 million to the local economy. Visit cameronparkzoo.com for more info!



Interview with Bestselling Author Jeff Guinn at the Central Library

On Saturday, February 4, bestselling author Jeff Guinn will make a special appearance at the Central Library (1717 Austin Avenue) to promote his new book, *Waco: David Koresh, the Branch Davidians, and a Legacy of Rage*.



Local History Librarian Sean Sutcliffe, who provided research assistance, will interview Mr. Guinn from 11 a.m. to noon, concluding with questions and answers from the public.

Guinn is the bestselling author of numerous books, including *Go Down Together*, *The Last Gunfight*, *Manson*, *War on the Border*, and *Waco*. He was the co-executive producer alongside Leonardo DiCaprio on the TV docuseries "Terror in the Jungle," based on his book, *The Road to Jonestown*. He is a member of the Texas Literary Hall of Fame, a two-time Edgar finalist for True Crime, and a two-time winner of the Texas Book Award.



In Case You Missed It: Doris Miller Memorial Ceremony

In remembrance of the attack on Pearl Harbor, many Wacoans attended the ceremony at the Doris Miller Memorial for the 81st Anniversary and observed National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day on December 7th.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day: Observed annually in the United States on December 7th to remember and honor the 2,403 Americans killed in the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

Doris Miller: He was born in Waco, Texas, on October 12, 1919, and enlisted in the United States Navy in 1939. He was a Mess Attendant 3rd class. Despite his status and lack of combat training, Miller operated an anti-aircraft machine gun on the deck of the battleship *West Virginia* during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. He was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions, the first African American to receive the award.